

February 10, 1958

Hon. William A. Proxmire
Senate Office Building
Washington 25, D. C.

Dear Senator:

A number of my colleagues on the university faculty have finally awakened to the importance for our professional functions of pending legislation on federal aid to higher education. We are preparing a report for formal presentation to, and possible action by, the faculty. If it were convenient, your office could do us a great service by giving us the current outlook on such legislation. Of special use might be copies of the most pertinent and possibly successful bills. We could use as many as five or ten copies if so many are conveniently available.

I earnestly hope you will have the time to consult some of your constituents on the university faculty on these matters if you revisit Madison during the spring recess. There will, of course, be an opportunity for tremendous good or harm according to the precedents established now.

You will doubtless be burdened by expressions of our opinions on the bills but not, I hope, before we have had a chance to study them carefully.

With all best regards,

Yours sincerely,

Joshua Lederberg
Professor of Medical Genetics

JL/ew

P. S. Thank you for your thoughtful reply to my query about paying for your trip out of pocket. I still hope you and your colleagues don't lean too far backward in probity: an upright posture is no less respectable and a more reasonable standard for your colleagues. I shouldn't want any of them to miss a chance at their education!